



Sheet 1 of 7

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2658 (203-2736)Application Number
09/815,504Applicant
Castro et al.Filing Date
March 23, 2001Group Art Number
3738**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS	DES 374,283	10/1/96	MICHELSON			
	DES 397,436	08/25/98	MICHELSON			
	2,677,369	05/04/54	F.L. KNOWLES			
	3,426,364	02/11/69	W.V. LUMB			
	3,486,505	12/30/69	G.M. MORRISON			
	3,648,691	03/14/72	LUMB ET AL.			
	3,719,186	03/06/73	MERIG, JR.			
	3,848,601	11/19/74	MA ET AL.			
	3,867,728	02/25/75	STUBSTAD ET AL.			
	3,867,932	02/25/75	HUENE			
	3,905,047	09/16/75	LONG			
	3,916,907	11/04/75	PETERSON			
	4,059,115	11/22/77	JUMASHEV ET AL.			
	4,177,524	12/11/79	GRELL ET AL.			
	4,309,777	01/12/82	PATIL			
	4,328,593	05/11/82	SUTTER ET AL.			
	4,343,321	08/10/82	CARANICAS			
	4,401,112	08/30/83	REZAIAN			
	4,479,491	10/30/84	MARTIN			
AS	4,484,570	11/27/84	SUTTER ET AL.			

Examiner

A. Stewart

Date Considered

03/19/03

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3738**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS	4,501,269	2/26/85	BAGBY			
	4,537,185	08/27/85	STEDNITZ			
	4,545,374	10/08/85	JACOBSON			
	4,553,273	11/19/85	WU			
	4,573,448	03/04/86	KAMBIN			
	4,599,084	07/08/86	NASHEF			
	4,636,217	01/13/87	OGILVIE ET AL.			
	4,657,550	04/14/87	DAHER			
	4,677,972	07/07/87	TORNIER			
	4,714,469	12/22/87	KENNA			
	4,743,256	05/10/88	BRANTIGAN			
	4,772,287	09/20/88	RAY ET AL.			
	4,790,303	12/13/88	STEFFEE			
	4,820,305	04/11/89	HARMS ET AL.			
	4,834,757	05/30/89	BRANTIGAN			
	4,877,020	10/31/89	VICH			
	4,878,915	11/07/89	BRANTIGAN			
	4,904,260	02/27/90	RAY ET AL.			
	4,904,261	02/27/90	DOVE ET AL.			
AS	4,927,421	05/22/90	GOBLE ET AL.			

Examiner

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Date Considered

03/19/03

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3738**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS	4,932,975	6/12/90	MAIN ET AL.			
	4,936,848	06/26/90	BAGBY			
	4,936,851	06/26/90	FOX ET AL.			
	4,961,740	10/09/90	RAY ET AL.			
	4,978,350	12/18/90	WAGENKNECHT			
	5,011,484	04/30/91	BREARD			
	5,015,247	05/14/91	MICHELSON			
	5,015,255	05/14/91	KUSLICH			
	5,055,104	10/08/91	RAY			
	5,059,193	10/22/91	KUSLICH			
	5,062,845	11/05/91	KUSLICH ET AL.			
	5,092,866	03/03/92	BREARD ET AL.			
	5,180,381	01/19/93	AUST ET AL.			
	5,192,327	03/09/93	BRANTIGAN			
	5,258,031	11/02/93	SALIB ET AL.			
	5,263,953	11/23/93	BAGBY			
	5,300,076	04/05/94	LERICHE			
	5,313,962	05/24/94	OBENCHAIN			
	5,358,511	10/25/94	GATTURNA ET AL.			
AS	5,387,213	02/07/95	BREARD ET AL.			

Examiner

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Date Considered

08/19/03

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Sheet 4 of 7

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2658 (203-2736)	Application Number 09/815,504
	Applicant Castro et al.	
	Filing Date March 23, 2001	Group Art Number 3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS	5,395,317	3/7/95	KAMBIN			
	5,395,372	03/07/95	HOLT ET AL.			
	5,400,805	03/28/95	WARREN			
	5,415,661	05/16/95	HOLMES			
	5,423,816	06/13/95	LIN			
	5,423,817	06/13/95	LIN			
	5,425,772	06/20/95	BRANTIGAN			
	5,431,658	07/11/95	MOSKOVICH			
	5,439,464	08/08/95	SHAPIRO			
	5,443,514	08/22/95	STEFFEE			
	5,454,811	10/03/95	HUEBNER			
	5,458,638	10/17/95	KUSLICH ET AL.			
	5,458,641	10/17/95	RAMIREZ JIMENEZ			
	5,470,334	11/28/95	ROSS ET AL.			
	5,480,403	01/02/96	LEE ET AL.			
	5,484,437	01/16/96	MICHELSON			
	5,489,307	02/06/96	KUSLICH ET AL.			
	5,489,308	02/06/96	KUSLICH ET AL.			
↓	5,496,318	03/05/96	HOWLAND ET AL.			
AS	5,505,732	04/09/96	MICHELSON			

Examiner A. Stewart	Date Considered 03/19/03
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Form PTO-1449

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2658 (203-2736)Application Number
09/815,504Applicant
Castro et al.Filing Date
March 23, 2001Group Art Number
3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS	5,522,899	6/4/96	MICHELSON			
	5,534,031	07/09/96	MATSUZAKI ET AL.			
	5,549,679	08/27/96	KUSLICH			
	5,554,191	09/10/96	LAHILLE ET AL.			
	5,562,736	10/08/96	RAY ET AL.			
	5,571,109	11/05/96	BERTAGNOLI			
	5,571,189	11/05/96	KUSLICH			
	5,571,192	11/05/96	SCHONHOFFER			
	5,591,235	01/07/97	KUSLICH			
	5,593,409	01/14/97	MICHELSON			
	5,609,635	03/11/97	MICHELSON			
	5,609,636	03/11/97	KOHR'S ET AL.			
	5,741,253	04/21/98	MICHELSON			
AS	5,797,909	08/25/98	MICHELSON			

Examiner

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Date Considered

03/19/03

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Docket Number (Optional)
2658 (203-2736)Application Number
09/815,504Applicant
Castro et al.Filing Date
March 23, 2001Group Art Number
3738**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
AS		WO 87/07827	12/30/87	PCT	1	1		
		WO 89/12431	12/28/89	PCT				
		WO 90/00037	01/11/90	PCT				
		WO 91/06261	05/16/91	PCT				
		WO 91/16018	10/31/91	PCT				
		WO 94/17759	08/18/94	PCT				
		WO 95/22946	08/31/95	PCT				
		WO 95/32673	12/07/95	PCT				
		WO 95/35180	12/28/95	PCT				
		WO 9608205A1	03/21/96	PCT				
		WO 96/27321	09/12/96	PCT				
		WO 96/27339	09/12/96	PCT				
		2,015,507	01/06/91	CANADA				
		0 077 159	04/20/83	EPO				
		0 322 334 B1	06/28/89	EPO				
		EP 0 716 840 A2	06/19/96	EPO				
		EP 0 796 593 A2	09/24/97	EPO				
		736,213	11/21/32	FRANCE				
↓		2,295,729	12/1974	FRANCE				
AS		2,681, 525	03/26/93	FRANCE				

Examiner

A. Stewart

Date Considered

03/19/03

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Sheet 7 of 7

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2658 (203-2736)	Application Number 09/815,504
	Applicant Castro et al.	
	Filing Date March 23, 2001	Group Art Number 3738

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
AS		2,706,309	12/23/94	FRANCE				
		25 42 056	03/31/77	GERMANY				
		43 28 690 A1	03/02/95	GERMANY				
		28 24 678	12/20/79	GERMANY				
		31 13142 A1	01/14/82	GERMANY				
		1-314560	12/19/89	JAPAN				
		10-314560	12/02/98	JAPAN				
		57-29348	02/17/82	JAPAN				
		58-78653	05/12/83	JAPAN				
		61-16572	01/24/86	JAPAN				
		61-135652	06/23/86	JAPAN				
		62-29344	02/07/87	JAPAN				
↓		62-164458	07/21/87	JAPAN				
AS		1484348 A1	6/1989	SU				

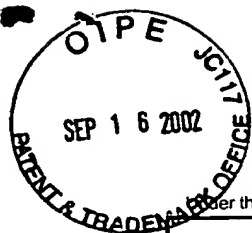
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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	09/815,504
				Filing Date	March 23, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Michael Castro
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-2658

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
AS	AA	5,702,455	12-30-1997	Rahul Saggar	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
AS	BA	WO 99/56675	11-11-1999	SDGI Holdings, Inc.		

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	A. Stewart	Date Considered	03/19/03
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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